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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7152

BILL NUMBER: SB 366

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 6, 2013

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Proof of Identification for Absentee Voters.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Head

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: *Proof of Identification-* The bill provides that a voter who votes at a licensed care facility in which the voter lives must give proof of identification. (Under current law, such a voter is exempt from the proof of identification requirement.)

Absentee Ballot- The bill requires a voter who casts an absentee ballot by mail (other than a military or overseas voter or an address confidentiality voter) to provide a photocopy of the voter's proof of identification in the mailing envelope.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Proof of Identification-* The bill would allow a copy of a voter's proof of identification (POI) to be on file for 22 months. After that time, the county voter registration office would be allowed to destroy POI's unless required to preserve them under either another provision of state or federal law.

Absentee Ballot- County election boards would have to include additional items in the mailing of an absentee ballot. Those additional items would include a ballot envelope to place the ballot in after it is filled out, an additional information sheet (if necessary), and instructions on how to process and return the ballot. This

provision would require additional paper and printing expense for county election boards.

County election boards would have to verify if mailed POI's actually qualify as proof of voter identification under election statute. If the county election board unanimously finds that the copy of the POI does not qualify, then the election board would be required to inscribe on the back of the ballot envelope that it does not qualify. The ballot would then be counted as a provisional ballot.

Background Information- Cast Absentee Ballots- There were 258,320 absentee ballots cast in the 2010 general election. Not all of these ballots were necessarily cast by mail, as some may have been voted in person at the county clerk's office.

Qualifications for a valid POI- The qualifications to determine a valid POI for voting purposes are as follows:

- (1) Name of the individual to whom the POI document was issued.
- (2) The name conforms to the name in the individual's voter registration record.
- (3) The document shows a photograph of the individual to whom the document was issued.
- (4) The document includes an expiration date, and the document:
 - (A) is not expired; or
 - (B) expires after the date of the most recent general election.
- (5) The document was issued by the United States or the state of Indiana.

Exceptions include a non-expiring document issued by the United States Department of Defense or a branch of the armed forces that meets the other requirements above.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: County election boards; county voter registration offices, county clerks.

Information Sources: Indiana Election Division.

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